

[18 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

the State Government for investigation and arrest of culprits. So far 14 persons including the mastermind behind the attack have been arrested. District Administration and police officials are alerted from time to time to be more vigilant for preventing occurrence of such incidents.

**Stringent punishment for rape**

3526. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has recommended incorporation of new provisions in the criminal laws to provide for stringent punishment for the offence of rape and sexual abuse of children taking note of UN conventions, various constitutional provisions and also after hearing the views of various women's organisations and NGO's;

(b) whether the Commission has also suggested that all cases of sexual assault must be tried by special courts with court personnel including judges, prosecutors, counsellors especially trained and sensitised to the issue of sexual assault; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Law Commission has not made any recommendation regarding trying of cases of sexual assault by the Special Courts.

(c) The recommendations of the Law Commission of India would be examined in consultation with the State Governments, as Criminal Law is on the Concurrent List in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India.

**Police misbehaviour in the name of VIP security**

† 3527. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.